

Abstract

The present invention provides a method for automatically bookmarking a URL specified by a web author when a user of a web browser attempts to bookmark a different page or when a process updates bookmarks based on either the HTTP 301 return code or the HTML meta refresh markup. In accordance with the present invention, a web page author places an "alternate bookmark directive" in the page (HTML or XML format) associated with a particular URL. When this "alternate bookmark directive" in the HTML or XML file is received by the web browser or by a process updating bookmarks, and the user of the browser attempts to bookmark the URL being viewed or the process is verifying a bookmark, then either the browser is instead directed to bookmark the alternate URL from the tag or the process modifies the bookmark being verified using the alternate URL from the tag. In a preferred embodiment, the bookmarked page being viewed or verified is an internal web page of the website, and the alternate bookmark directive directs the browser to bookmark the URL for the home page of the website or the verification process to update the bookmark to the URL for the home page of the website.